GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
SHIPPING
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:6173
ANSWERED ON:30.04.2015
FINANCIAL POWERS OF PORTS TRUSTS
Boianapalli Shri Vinod Kumar

Will the Minister of SHIPPING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to enhance the financial powers of Major Port Trusts;

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the reasons therefor;

(c) whether any committee has been constituted in this regard; and

(d) if so, the details thereof along with the recommendations made by the Committee including follow up action taken thereon?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING (SHRI PON. RADHAKRISHNAN)

(a) Yes, Madam.

(b)to(d): A Committee headed by Special Secretary & Financial Adviser in the Ministry of Shipping with the representatives from the Ministry of Shipping and Major Ports was constituted on 17/06/ 2013 to suggest measures, inter-alia, to rationalize the extant powers of the Major Port Trusts including recommendations for enhancement of the same. Based on the recommendations of the committee, orders enhancing the financial limits and also for streamlining the powers exercisable by Major Port Trusts have been issued by the Government on 11/02/2015. The areas covered include the powers to execute contracts and deposit works, take temporary loans or overdrafts, incur capital expenditure, sanction works, compound or compromise claims, writing off losses and various housekeeping functions.

Safeguards have been provided so as to ensure due diligence and accountability in the exercise of the financial powers. These enhanced limits are expected to speed up the decision making process for various activities in the Major Ports in general and for development works in particular.